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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

6 March 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Allan Evans, (OIR)  
Lt. Col. E. T. Seaburn, USA (ACSI)  
Captain W. S. Howell, USN (ONI)  
Colonel W. B. Sawyer, USAF (AFOIN 2B2)  
Colonel C. H. Dayhuff, Jr., USA (JIG)

SUBJECT: SNIE 43-57: Likelihood of Chinese Nationalist Military  
Action Against the Mainland in 1957

1. The IAC, at its meeting on March 5, 1957, requested that an estimate be done on the likelihood of military action against mainland China by the Chinese Nationalists in 1957. The IAC requested that this estimate be completed in approximately four weeks.

2. We suggest that the scope of the estimate be limited to the following questions:

- (a) What is the likelihood that the Government of the Republic of China will attempt an invasion of mainland China in 1957 without consulting the US Government?
- (b) What is the likelihood that the Government of the Republic of China will make a serious attempt to elicit US support for or at least acquiescence in such an invasion in 1957?
- (c) What are the likely courses of action which Nationalist China might take in the event it fails to obtain such US support or acquiescence?

3. We suggest that no formal terms of reference be prepared for this estimate, and that your representative meet with us at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 13, in Room 115 Administration Building, to discuss the scope of the estimate and to submit informal written or oral contributions.

*William P. Bundy*  
WILLIAM P. BUNDY  
Deputy Assistant Director  
National Estimates